

Message Text

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22

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 ACDA-07

NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 AID-05 PC-01 IO-13

/075 W

----- 071662

O 061525Z JUL 76ZDK
FM AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4777
INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY LILONGWE
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

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E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MZ, RH
SUBJECT: CONTINUED FIGHTING IN MAPAI AREA

1. EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED UNCONFIRMED REPORT FROM RELIABLE LOCAL EMPLOYEE THAT ANOTHER SERIOUS OUTBREAK OF FIGHTING OCCURRED NEAR MAPAI AND CHICUALACUALA DURING NIGHTS ON JULY 5 AND 6. EMBASSY LOCAL SAID HE RECEIVED INFO FROM RAILROAD EMPLOYEE WHO HAS JUST RETURNED FROM MALVERNIA. NUMEROUS CASUALTIES WERE REPORTED IN LATEST INCIDENTS AND SOME LOCAL RESIDENTS ARE NOW IN PROCESS OF MOVING OUT OF AffECTED AREAS. EMBASSY'S LOCAL ALSO SAID THAT JULY 5 AND 6 RAIDS NEAR MAPAI AND CHICALACULA, JUST AS THOSE OF JUNE 26 AND 28, WERE CARRIED OUT BY DISAFFECTED MOZAMBICANS AND NOT BY REGULAR RHODESIAN MILITARY UNITS.

2. COMMENT: WHILE EMBASSY HAS NO WAY TO CORROBORATE REPORT OF LATEST ATTACKS OR ALLEGATIONS THAT THEY WERE UNDERTAKEN BY MOZAMBICANS, IT IS WORTH NOTING THAT ATTACKS DEEP INSIDE MOZAMBIQUE ARE SAID TO HAVE BEEN PERPETRATED BY EXILED MOZAMBICANS WHO ARE ALLEGEDLY BLACK PORTUGUESE MILITARY UNITS) WHO ARE NOW IN CONFIDENTIAL

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HIRE OF RHODESIAN GOVERNMENT. ALTHOUGH THESE RUMORS MAY HAVE ORIGINATED

WITH RHODESIAN RADIO BROADCASTS WHICH STRONGLY DENIED RHODESIAN GOVERNMENT INVOLVEMENT IN JUNE 26 AND 28 ATTACKS, AN AMERICANS REPRESENTATIVE AT LOCAL TIRE FACTORY HAS ADDED RATHER IN TRIGUING ELEMENT TO STORY. THE AMERICAN TOLD EMBOFF JULY 4 THAT SEVERAL BLACK MEMBERS OF HIS STAFF WHO ARE FORMER PORTUGUESE ARMY VETERANS SAID THEY WERE AFRAID THEY MIGHT BE ARRESTED SOON BECAUSE GPRM IS IN PROCESS OF ROUNDING UP FORMER BLACK VETERANS. THE WORKERS SUSPECTED, BUT WERE NOT SURE, THAT THE ARRESTS WERE BEING MADE IN CONJUNCTION WITH JUNE 26 AND 28 ATTACKS NEAR BORDER.

3. ALTHOUGH IT MAY BE SOME TIME BEFORE EMBASSY ABLE TO SEPARATE FACT FROM FICTION, IT IS CONCEIVABLE THAT RHODESIANS HAVE ADOPTED NEW STRATEGY IN EXPANDING GUERILLA CONFLICT AND ARE INFILTRATING DISSIDENT MOZAMBICAN ELEMENTS INTO MOZAMBIQUE TO STIR UP TROUBLE AND KEEP GPRM OFF BALANCE.

DE PREE

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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